

Remarks/Arguments

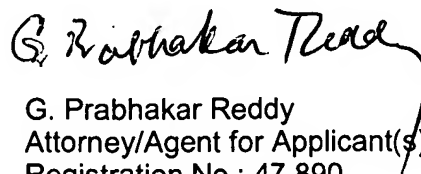
Per the Examiner's suggestions via a telephone conversation on August 31, 2006 and a follow-up conversation on September 6, 2006, the following claim cancellations, amendments and additions have been made. Claims 1-13 have been canceled. Claim 14 has been amended to independent format. Claims 14-15 have also been amended to: (1) further limit the defined scope of R^1 , R^3 and/or R^4 , from the scope in canceled claim 13, from which they previously depended. Claims 16-21 have been amended to depend from independent claim 14. New independent claim 22 and claims 23-26 dependent therefrom have been added. Support for the new claims may be found at least at pgs 5-12 and pgs 25-29 of the specification as well as in the originally filed claims 1 and 4-9. No new matter has been added.

Amended claim 14 and new claims 22-26 do not read on the art cited by the Examiner in an official action dated April 13, 2006. Applicants' amendments to claims 14-15 have not been made, and new claims 22-26 submitted herewith have not been added, in response to any Examiner objection or rejection, or in response to any prior art of record, but simply to expedite prosecution and allowance of the present application. Applicants reserve the right to file a continuation or divisional application(s) to pursue claims to unclaimed subject matter, which was removed due to the present amendment.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request an early notice of allowance. If there are any remaining issues, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact Applicant's representative directly to resolve such issues. Applicants do not believe any fees are due with this response, however, if fees are due in connection with this filing then the commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such filing fees to deposit account 01-0519 in the name of Amgen Inc.

Respectfully submitted,


G. Prabhakar Reddy
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)
Registration No.: 47,890
Phone: (805) 447-3288
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PATENT APPLICATION

Please send all future correspondence to:

US Patent Operations/GPR
Dept. 4300, M/S 28-2-C
AMGEN INC.
One Amgen Center Drive
Thousand Oaks, California 91320-1799